

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Great Falls Oil and Gas Field Station 1101 15th Street North Great Falls, Montana 59401 (406) 791-7700



Re: Scoping Notice

Bowdoin Natural Gas Project Environmental Assessment

March 27, 2006

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is planning to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed plan to be known as the Bowdoin Natural Gas Development Project.

Fidelity Exploration & Production Company has notified the United States Department of Interior, BLM, Great Falls Field Station that Fidelity and other operators, including Noble Energy, Decker Operating Company, and Omimex Canada intend to drill additional exploration and development wells in the Bowdoin Natural Gas Project Area. The proposal is generally located on public, fee, and state lands within Townships 30 through 37 North, Ranges 29 through 36 East, in Phillips and Valley Counties, Montana.

A scoping notice has been prepared for your review and information, both as an introduction to the proposed project and as a review of the basic procedures we intend to follow in the preparation of the EA. The scoping notice is an opportunity for you to participate in the earliest phase of the environmental assessment for the Bowdoin Natural Gas Development Project. We encourage your input and comments to the project. Information and comments you provide will enable us to assess alternatives for consideration in the environmental assessment.

We are conducting scoping for 30 days. If you are interested in participating in the scoping process, we request that you respond by supplying your written or e-mailed comments and concerns about the proposed activity by May 1, 2006. Please submit your comments to:

Donato Judice, Field Station Supervisor Bureau of Land Management Great Falls Oil & Gas Field Station 1101 15th Street North Great Falls, Montana 59401

E-mail: MT Bowdoin EA@blm.gov

A link to the Scoping Notice will be posted on the Montana - Dakotas homepage at www.mt.blm.gov. Your response is important and will be considered in the environmental analysis process. If you do respond, we will consider your comments in the analysis for the project. Please note that public comments submitted for this scoping review, including names, e-mail addresses, and street addresses of the respondents, will be available for public review and disclosure at the above address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name, e-mail address, or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials or organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Thank you again for your interest in this process. If you have any questions regarding the project, your role, or our responsibilities, please contact me at the address shown above or phone (406) 791-7789.

Sincerely,

Donato J. Judice Field Station Supervisor

Enclosure